REMARKS

With the above amendments, claims 1, 4-10, and 13-27 remain in the application. Claims 2-3 and 11-12 were previously canceled without prejudice. Claims 1 and 10 are hereby amended. No new matter is being added.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The pending claims stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as unpatentable over Olarig '680 (USP 6,038,680) in view of Berney (USP 6,299,068). These rejections are respectfully traversed for the claims as now amended.

Claim 1, as amended, now recites as follows.

> 1. A method of visually locating a memory module, the method comprising:
> receiving an electronic communication by circuitry on the memory module to be visually located;
> activating a beacon state in the memory module due to receipt of the electronic communication; and
> electronically turning on a beacon device on the memory module when the beacon state is activated to draw attention to that memory module,
> wherein the beacon device comprises an **electromechanical** device **which visibly shows the beacon state when activated and that remains activated even in the absence of power**.

(Emphasis added.)

As shown above, claim 1 now requires that "the beacon device comprises an **electromechanical** device **which visibly shows the beacon state when activated and that remains activated even in the absence of power.**" (Emphasis added.)

The above-recited limitation finds support on page 11, lines 26 through page 12, line 9 of the original specification, which recites as follows.

> In accordance with an embodiment of the invention, an example **electromechanical** beacon device is depicted in FIGS. 6A, 6B, and 6C. In this example, the electromechanical device comprises an electromechanical button or flag. Switches or other forms of electromechanical devices may also be used. FIG. 6A is a plan view (top view) of the example electromechanical device. FIG. 6B is a perspective view (side view) of the device with the electromechanical button or flag in the down (deactivated) position. FIG. 6C is a perspective view (side view) of the device with the electromechanical button or flag in the up (activated) position.
>
> **Such electromechanical devices are particularly advantageous in that they do not require the application of power to the device in order to stay in an activated or "turned on" state. For example, during repair, often times power is removed from the system chassis. With such an electromechanical beacon device, the "flag" may be "popped" (like a circuit breaker) when activated. It will remain in the popped position, whether or not power is applied, until it is reset by a repair person or other user.**

(Emphasis added.)

An exemplary electromechanical beacon device is illustrated in FIGS. 6A, 6B and 6C. For convenience of reference, FIGS. 6B and 6C are reproduced below.

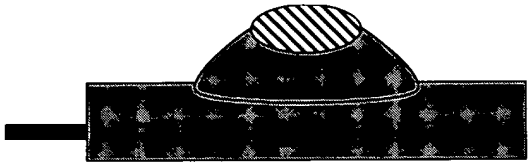


FIG. 6B
(Perspective View)
(Button Down)

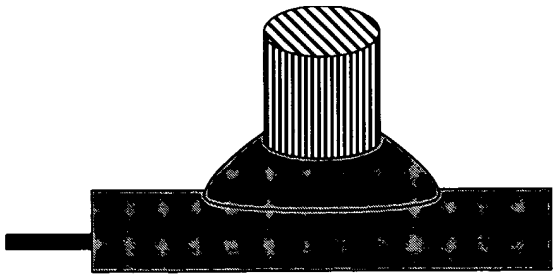


FIG. 6C
(Perspective View)
(Button Up)

As stated in the latest office action, Olarig does not teach a beacon device which "comprises an electromechanical device that remains activated even in the absence of power." Applicants agrees with aforementioned conclusion.

Berney

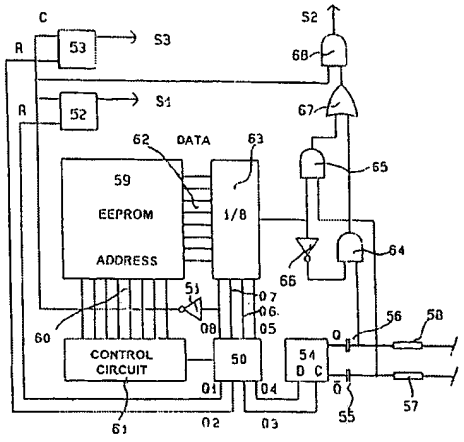
Regarding Berney, applicants respectfully submit that Berney also does not teach the limitation that "the beacon device comprises an **electromechanical** device ...."

The office action cites to "column 29, lines 41-15" of Berney. However, Berney appears to end at column 10. Hence, applicants have surmised that the Examiner meant to cite to col. 7, lines 41-15 of Berney, which recites as follows.

> ... **an electronic memory (59) able to maintain its state in the absence of a power supply**, a control circuit (61) connected to the electronic memory (59), several electrooptical means (6, 8) arranged so as to detect input light signals (11) and deliver output light signals (37) ...
>
> (Emphasis added.)

In Berney, the electronic memory (59) corresponds to EEPROM (59) which is depicted in FIG. 5. For convenience of reference, FIG. 5 of Berney is reproduced below.

FIGURE 5



Applicants respectfully submit that **the electronic memory (i.e. EEPROM)** taught by Berney is not an **electromechanical** device as recited in the claimed invention. In particular, there is no **mechanical** operating portion of the EEPROM taught by Berney.

Applicants further submit that the EEPROM taught by Berney does not have a "beacon state" which is **visibly shown when activated** per the claimed invention.

Hence, for at least the above discussed reasons, applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is now patentably distinguished over the cited art.

Claims 4- 9 depend from claim 1. As such, claims 4-9 are patentable over the cited art for at least the same reasons discussed above in relation to claim 1.

Regarding independent claim 10, claim 10, as amended, now recites as follows.

10. An apparatus to visually locate a memory module in a memory system with a plurality of memory modules, the apparatus comprising:

a system board including a memory controller and a plurality of memory module slots on the system board;
a plurality of memory modules seated in the plurality of memory module slots; and
a beacon unit on a memory module with a beacon device and control circuitry for turning on the beacon device when an electronic communication to turn on the beacon device is received by that memory module,
wherein the beacon device comprises an **electromechanical** device **which visibly shows the beacon state when activated and that remains activated even in the absence of power**.

(Emphasis added.)

As shown above, claim 10 now requires that "the beacon device comprises an **electromechanical** device which visibly shows the beacon state when activated and that remains activated even in the absence of power." (Emphasis added.)

As stated in the latest office action, Olarig does not teach a beacon device which "comprises an electromechanical device that remains activated even in the absence of power." Applicants agrees with aforementioned conclusion.

Similar to the discussion above in relation to claim 1, applicants respectfully submit that the EEPROM taught by Berney does not read on the above-recited limitation in claim 10 wherein the beacon device comprises an **electromechanical** device which visibly shows the activated beacon state and that remains activated even in the absence of power.

Hence, for at least the above-discussed reasons, applicants respectfully submit that claim 10, as amended, is now patentably distinguished over the cited art.

Claims 13-26 depend from claim 10. As such, claims 13-26 are patentable over the cited art for at least the same reasons discussed above in relation to claim 10.

Regarding independent claim 27, that claim, as previously presented, recites as follows.

> 27. A system for visually locating a memory module, the system comprising:
> means for receiving an electronic communication by circuitry on the memory module to be visually located;
> means for activating a beacon state in the memory module due to receipt of the electronic communication; and
> means for electronically turning on a beacon device on the memory module when the beacon state is activated to draw attention to that memory module,
> wherein the beacon device comprises an **electromechanical** device that remains activated even in the absence of power.

(Emphasis added.)

As shown above, claim 27 requires that "the beacon device comprises an **electromechanical** device that remains activated even in the absence of power." (Emphasis added.)

As stated in the latest office action, Olarig does not teach a beacon device which "comprises an electromechanical device that remains activated even in the absence of power." Applicants agrees with aforementioned conclusion.

Similar to the discussion above in relation to claim 1, applicants respectfully submit that the EEPROM of Berney does not read on the above-recited limitation in claim 27 which requires an **electromechanical** device.

Hence, applicants respectfully submit that claim 27, as amended, is now patentably distinguished over the cited art.

Conclusion

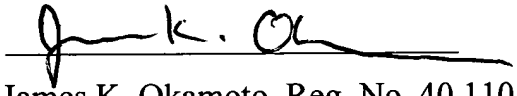
For at least the above reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 4-10, and 13-27, as hereby amended, are now patentably distinguished over the cited art.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (408) 436-2111 for any questions.

If for any reason an insufficient fee has been paid, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the insufficiency to Deposit Account No. 08-2025.

Respectfully submitted,
Thane Larson et al.

Dated: August 28, 2006



James K. Okamoto, Reg. No. 40,110
Okamoto & Benedicto LLP
P.O. Box 641330
San Jose, CA 95164
Tel.: (408)436-2110
Fax.: (408)436-2114

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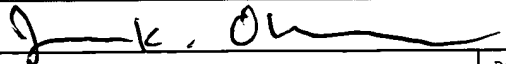
Signature:			
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